Domestic airport in Purnea (Bihar)

302. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an urgent necessity of a domestic airport in Purnea (Bihar);

(b) whether it is also a fact that during the previous Government, a serious effort was made for establishing it and all the preliminary works like survey etc. had been made;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Air Force Headquarters had granted permission for setting up a domestic airport in Purnea;

(d) if so, why this proposal is shelved;

(e) whether Government have any plan to establish the same; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

. THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Presently no such request is under consideration.

(b) Yes, Sir. In 2001-02, efforts were made to establish a civil enclave at Indian Air Force (IAF) airport, Purnea.

(c) and (d) AAI officials, during 2001-02, had selected two sites to initially develop a temporary terminal infrastructure but No Objection Certificate (NOC) was not issued by Air Headquarters/Ministry of Defence due to security and operational implications.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of (c) and (d) above.

Development of airports in Karnataka

303. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has requested the Centre to develop an Airport each at Gulbarga, Hassan, Bijapur, Shimoga, Belgaum, etc., where certain private airlines have evinced interest in operating their respective flights to these proposed airports; and

(b) if so, the details of each project proposal and Centre's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka (GoK) has decided to develop new Greenfield Airports at Gulbarga, Hassan, Bijapur and Shimoga through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) route. The State Government has been advised to get feasibility reports of the proposed airports prepared, obtain required statutory approvals/clearances from authorities concerned and submit the proposals to Government of India for grant of "In-Principle" approval.